

**EFFECTIVE**

January 1, 2000.

**SUBJECT**

Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994 as amended by the Interethnic Adoption Provisions of 1996

**PURPOSE**

1. To implement new grievance procedures for any foster care or adoptive applicant or approved foster care/adoptive parent.

**1. NEW  
GRIEVANCE  
PROCEDURES**

To insure compliance with the requirements of the Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994 as amended by the Interethnic Adoption provisions of 1996 (MEPA/IEP), grievance procedures are being implemented. Any foster care or adoptive applicant or approved foster care/adoptive parent who has reason to believe that he/she has been denied or delayed the placement of a child because of race, color, or national origin may file a written grievance and will be provided the opportunity or an informal hearing to review the allegations.

The specific intentions of MEPA/IEP are to:

- Decrease the length of time that children wait to be adopted.
- Facilitate the recruitment and retention of foster and adoptive parents who can meet the distinctive needs of children awaiting placement, and
- Eliminate discrimination on the basis of the race, color, or national origin of the child or the prospective parent.

Foster care, adoption, and licensing workers will need to advise a foster care or adoptive applicant or approved foster care/adoptive parent of these procedures if the worker becomes aware of a complaint alleging a violation of MEPA/IEP.

**MANUAL  
MAINTENANCE  
INSTRUCTIONS**

**Added Items ...**

**SRM 142**